LOS RANCHOS

SUMMER EDITION 1974 LAFAYETTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 133

THIRD ANNUAL POT LUCK DINNER RECAP

A record crowd of members and guests shared reminiscences of the old Sacramento Northern Railway at their annual pot luck at the Veterans Memorial Building.

After dinner, a five-member panel unfolded the story that the trains played in our community's early history. Brother Dennis, St. Mary's College librarian who rode the trains as a student told the audience of the many trains planned for the area that never went into operation; Mrs. Ned Flanders recalled the fun of riding the interurban trains from the West Lafayette Station to Claremont Junior High in Oakland; Grant Burton, a native of the area recalled the efforts of the early railroad promoters and his own experiences as a passenger on the trains; Walter Costa, city councilman, outlined the city's hopes to use the abandoned Sacramento-Northern right-of-way for a bike, hike and riding trail that would eventually link Briones and Las Trampas parks; Louis Stein, history and train buff, showed a series of moving pictures taken of the Sacramento-Northern along its route from Oakland through central Contra Costa County. Moderator for the evening was Mrs. Fern P. Davis.

Mrs. Betsy Willcuts was program chairman and serving with her were: dinner chairman, Mrs. Esther Marchant; decorations, Mrs. Virginia Anderson; publicity, Mrs. Sandy Kimball. President Lee Pfautch, who presided at the dinner meeting and election of officers (see page 3 for new board of directors) expressed the society's thanks to all who assisted with this year's successful pot luck.

SUMMER EXHIBIT IN THE LANDMARKS ROOM

"Horse And Carriage Days - Then and Now" is the historical society's newest exhibit at the Lafayette Federal Savings and Loan Bldg., 3614 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Colorful red, white, and blue banners set the scene for a display which features Lafayette's festivals of the past and present, horse shows and parades, local horsemen and horse ranches, and the Concours d'Elegance. Western gear, ribbons, silver trophies and old photographs help recreate the festivals and horse shows of the 1930's and 1940's. The Concours d'Elegance and the Horse Show at Briones Park, two of the important festival events of the 1970's are represented here by photographs of elegant vintage cars and by handsome silver trophies.

The society thanks the following contributors for their generosity in saluting the gala festivals of the past and present: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Brown, Kenneth and Ada Brown of Rolling Ridge Ranch, Robert M. Fisher, Karl T. Goeppert, Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Harguindeguy, Oliver D. Hamlin, Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Bill Magrath, Dee Dee Perry, and Cynthia Steding.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Augenthaler
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Downes
Bill and Florence Hawkins
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Headley
David and Lynn Hiden
Mrs. Maud McFlashback
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McVey
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mulligan
Mr. and Mrs. James Shank
Mrs. Avon Wilson

GIFTS TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A portrait of Jennie Bickerstaff Rosenberg, known as "Miss Jennie" to early day Lafayette residents and one of the area's most popular school teachers, has been donated to the society by Mrs. Charles Shrock.

The pencil drawing, done by an unkown artist, from a photograph taken of Miss Jennie on her graduation from San Jose State Normal School in 1892, will be on permanent display in the Lafayette library 's music room.

Mrs. Shrock, who visited here recently with her husband from Poplarville, Miss., said the portrait in its gold and white frame belonged to her late father, Harry Boyer of Antioch and Lafayette, California.

Three diplomas earned by Jennie Bickerstaff were donated by William Rosenberg, widower of the pioneer school teacher. One of the diplomas was of Miss Jennie's graduation from the Lafayette Grammar School on July 2, 1888; another from San Jose Normal School and the third was for high teaching honors awarded Jan. 17, 1902.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS***COMMITTEE REPORT

Organizations and individuals alike find our newspaper clippings file in the library a valuable resource center. Here is information on current city affairs as well as documentation on the early history of this community and county. Local newspapers are the principal sources, although other Bay Area newspapers are clipped, according to committee members Mrs. Peggy Craig and Mrs. Ruth Holton. The public is welcome to use this material during library hours.

DISPLAY BOOTH AT CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

If you're looking for a pleasant way to spend Sunday, July 14, you might walk over to the Concours d'Elegance on the green at Stanley School. Our annual display booth will be staffed by Joan Merryman and a committee of volunteers. Historical post cards and stationery will also be on sale.

WALKING TOUR WITH LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN

That group of Stanley School seventh graders and Sandy Kimball weren't just wandering around downtown recently. They were on a "walking tour" of historical spots centered around Moraga Road and Plaza Park. "It was great fun," said Sandy who has been closely involved with several of our local schools.

MANY THANKS to the retiring officers and board of directors. They did a great job for the historical society!

LAFAYETTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS		
Pres. Christine Schreiber	284-7538	944 Hawthorne Dr.
V.P. Joan Merryman	283-0659	811 Topper Lane
Re. Sec. Toni Finger	283-2203	1137 Garden Lane
Cor. Sec. Edith Viguers	284-1468	963 Hawthorn Dr.
Treas. Elinore Fisher	283-0103	3932 N. Peardale Dr.
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Father William Abeloe	232-5659	Honorary
Angela Broadhead	283-3303	965 Yorkshire Ct.
Wally Costa	283-2917	1264 Redwood Lane
Fern Davis	939-4635	1301 Canyon Wood Ct. #6 W.C. 94595
Ellie Fisher	283-0103	3932 N. Peardale Dr.
Toni Finger	283-2203	1137 Garden Lane
Dorothy Helmick	933-8630	1019 Windsor Dr.
Sandy Kimball	283-8677	3363 N. Lucile Lane
Esther Marchant	934-8016	1403 Meadow Lark Ct.
Joan Merryman	283-0659	811 Topper Lane
Christine Schreiber	284-7538	944 Hawthorne Dr.
Edith Viguers	284-1468	963 Hawthorne Dr.
Betsy Willcuts	283-0706	1343 Martino Rd.
Standing Committees		
Artifacts & Archives		
Fern Davis	939-4635	1301 Canyon Wood Ct. #6 W.C. 94595
Comm. Rel. Bicentennial		
Lee Pfautch	284-5660	3676 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Hospitality		
Virginia Anderson	283-3632	3483 Monroe Ave.
Landmarks- Ted Murphy	283-3547	3632 Bickerstaff St.
Membership- Betsy Willcuts	283-0706	1343 Martino Rd.
Newsletter- Martha Gridley	283-6495	985 S. Thompson Rs.
News Clippings-Peggy Craig	283-6504	825 Solana Dr.
Oral History-Dorothy Helmick	933-8630	1019 Windsor Dr.
Program-Mary McIvor	284-5712	793 Solana Dr.
Publicity-Sandy Kimball	283-8677	3363 N. Lucile Lane
Youth Representatives		
Mark & Jimmy Lattaner	376-5026	515 Dawkins Dr.
Landmark Exhibits & Rep. to County Coor. Comm.		
Angela Broadhead	283-3303	965 Yorkshire Ct.
Rep. C.C.C. Hist. Soc.		
Joan Merryman	283-0659	811 Topper Lane

LAFAYETTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 133
LAFAYETTE, CALIFORNIA 94549

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LANDMARKS ROOM EXHIBIT
"Horse and Carriage Days - Now and Then"

July 7 - Horse Show at Briones Park
July 14 - Concours d'Elegance
July 18-19-20-21 - Carnival
July 20 - Parade
July 20-21 Frog Jump

Davis
1301 Canyonwood Ct. #6
Wal. Creek, Cal.
94595